



MDOT Library News

Murray D. Van Wagoner Building
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Hours of Service:
Monday thru Friday
7:30—11:45AM / 12:45-4:30PM
Mail Code: B155

History of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Library

Seeing a need for a transportation library, MDOT engineer John A. Overhouse established the MDOT Library in 1963. Before the Van Wagoner Transportation building existed, the library was located on the 6th floor of the Mason building until 1968. Norm Bunker was MDOT's first librarian. He oversaw the library's growth and its move to the first floor of the new Van Wagoner building, where it was located for the next 30 years. Jeanne Thomas became MDOT's second librarian in 1977 and worked to bring the library into the electronic age. In 1990, she helped develop the STAR library database system that is still used to house the library catalog today. In 1997, the library moved to the third floor of the Van Wagoner building. Jeanne retired from MDOT in July of 2001. In December 2001, the Van Wagoner building fire caused the library to shut down. Essential services were temporarily run from the North Ottawa towers by Tricia Aper, who was the driving force to get the library reopened. In July 2005, the MDOT Library moved back to the first floor of the Van Wagoner building. Alexandra Briseno became MDOT's third librarian in March 2007.

MDOT Library Staff

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Meet the Librarian

Alexandra Briseno — Transportation Librarian



Alexandra obtained a Bachelors of Arts in History from Michigan State University in 1993, and Masters of Library and Information Science from Wayne State University in 1997. She also holds a Graduate Certificate in Archival Administration from Wayne State University. Her professional background consists of working as a Senior Archivist, Reference Librarian, Web & Content Editor, Market Researcher and Legal Document Custodian. She moved back to her home state of Michigan in 2007 after residing in Alexandria, Virginia, for nine years. Outside of work, she enjoys genealogy and is the Management Vice President of the Lansing Jaycees.

Oldest Material at the MDOT Library

The MDOT Library houses a collection of books that document the beginnings of the Michigan State Highway department. Information in these reports includes road and bridge construction, budget figures, laws enacted, and transportation information by county. The reports are called the *Biennial Reports of the State Highway Commissioner* and they span from 1905-1956. Today, these reports are used primarily by the Design Division to gain information on historic bridges in the state of Michigan. While these reports cannot be checked out due to their historic value and age, employees are more than welcome to visit the MDOT Library to use these materials.

MDOT Library Memberships

Michigan Library Consortium (MLC) - MLC is a non-profit membership organization comprised of all types of Michigan libraries. MLC provides libraries a convenient, single point of contact for training, group purchasing and technical support for electronic resources. MLC saves member libraries time and money.

Midwest Transportation Knowledge Network (MTKN) - MTKN is a network of Midwest Transportation Libraries to pool resources, share expertise and best practices while serving as a model for a National Transportation Knowledge Network.

Transportation Library Connectivity Pooled Fund Study - The Pooled Fund Study is a network of transportation libraries, universities and transit authorities to share expertise and resources to bring the benefits of effective information access to the entire transportation community.

New Library Acquisitions (Sample)

The following materials were recently acquired and can be checked out for 28 days at a time.

- National Highway Carriers Directory
- State Public Transportation Division Involvement in State Emergency Planning, Response and Recovery
- Color Effectiveness of Yellow Pavement Marking Materials
- Privacy Issues with the Use of Smart Cards
- Airport Economic Impact Methods and Models
- Analysis and Testing for Studying Pavement Design and Performance
- Development of a Recommended Practice for Use of Controlled Low-Strength Material in Highway Construction
- Freight Demand Modeling
- Specifications and Protocols for Acceptance Tests on Processing Additions in Cement Manufacturing
- Compilation of Public Opinion Data on Tolls and Road Pricing
- AVL Systems for Bus Transit
- Data Integration – The Michigan Experience
- Solidification / Stabilization with Cement Quantifying Antistrip Additives in Asphalt (Binder & Mixes)

Transportation Topic Websites—Asphalt

With recent news related to road conditions, here are some websites that might be helpful for asphalt research

- National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA): www.hotmix.org
- Asphalt Institute: www.asphaltinstitute.org
- Asphalt Technology Team: www.fhwa.dot.gov/pavement/asphalt/index.cfm
- Long Term Pavement Performance (LTPP) Program: <http://tfhrc.gov/pavement/ltppltp.htm>
- National Center for Asphalt Technology (NCAT): www.eng.auburn.edu/center/ncat
- Superpave - AASHTO Innovative Highway Technologies: <http://leadstates.transportation.org/sp/index.stm>
- Southeastern Superpave Center: www.eng.auburn.edu/center/ncat/ssc/ssc.html
- South Central Superpave Center: http://tti.tamu.edu/groups/program.htm?p_org_code=SC-BDV
- North Central Superpave Center: <http://cobweb.ecn.purdue.edu/~spave/>
- Northeast Center of Excellence for Pavement Technology (NCEPT): www.superpave.psu.edu
- Asphalt Laboratories at Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center: www.tfhrc.gov/about/asphalt.htm
- Asphalt Pavement Alliance: <http://www.asphaltpavementalliance.com>